HAPPY NEW YEAR

Our 111th year of serving the Carbondale area -- home of Donald Thompson

Carbondale News

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COLORING CONTEST WINNERS -- Shown with their prize-winning entries in this year's coloring contest are, first row, left to right, Neal Pwowarski, Mary Beth Lesak and Sam Fox Jr. Second row, Tammy Potin, Michael Motsay and Joey Getzie. (NEWS Photo)

Many prizes await parents of first baby born in new year

In cooperation with our merchants, the Carbondale NEWS will conduct its 23rd annual "First Baby" contest, and will award hundreds of dollars in gifts and certificates, merchandise, cash and savings accounts to the parents of the first baby born in the greater Carbondale area.

To be eligible, parents of the first baby must be residents of the NEWS coverage area, but their child need not be born in a Carbondale hospital. Parents must reside within the area bordered by Jermyn to the south, Forest City to the north, Waymart on the east, and on the west by Clifford.

Time, date and place of birth must be submitted in a statement by the attending physician to document 1984's first regional birth.

Participating businesses in this year's contest include:

Carney's Drug Store, a $5 gift certificate.

Andrews' Jewelers Inc., a baby cup.

Ms. Fashions, a $5 gift certificate.

Liberty Discount and Savings Bank, a $10 savings account for the baby.

Frank's TV, Furniture and Appliances, a $10 gift certificate.

Raub Shoes, a pair of baby shoes.

Roemmelmeyer's Store for Men and Women, a $10 gift certificate.

Carbondale NEWS, one year's subscription to the parents.

Pat Baker's Women's Wear, a $10 gift certificate.

The Sweet Shoppe, Bernadette and Leonard Salko, a $5 gift certificate.

Helm's TV, a $10 gift certificate.

Dressler Coal Company, James Mullen, $5 to the parents.

Zazzera's Food Center, a $10 food order.

Famous Fashions, Fred Ciotti, $10 gift certificate.

Shop and Save, Allan Thomas and Robert Noll, a $20 gift certificate.

First National Bank of Carbondale, a $10 savings account for the baby.

Durkin's Ladies' and Men's Apparel, Steve Durkin, a $10 gift certificate.

Roselle Department Store, a $10 gift certificate.

Wallis Furniture, a $5 gift certificate.

Community National Bank, a $10 savings account to the new baby.

Big Chief Market, Carbondale, a case of baby food.

Price Insurance, John Price, $1,000 insurance policy for the first year of the newborn's life.

Singer Plumbing, Jerry Fives, $5 gift certificate to the parents.

Daffodil Florist, Judy Gallagher, flowers to the proud parents.

McDonnell's Restaurant, Bob McDonald, $10 gift certificate.

Gilpin Carpet Shop, Karen Gilpin, $10 to the parents.

Jon Katherson Shoes and Apparel, $10 gift certificate to the parents.

Animal Crackers, $15 gift certificate and registry in the baby gift book.

Retail sales were up for most area businesses this Christmas season

According to economic reports, consumers across America have been spending more money this year, making it the best Christmas for retailers in several years. The experience of merchants in New York City and Los Angeles has been shared, for the most part, by Carbondale businessmen who claim that they too have had better sales this year than last year.

The NEWS braved the bitter cold last Thursday to conduct a poll of local merchants to see how they were doing.

Howard Shapiro, owner of All Season Sports Center, 32 River Street, said that his business was about 40 percent ahead of last year's sales volume. Shapiro sells motorcycles, all-terrain cycles and snowmobiles.

Robert Toolan, manager of the state liquor store, said that liquor sales were also running about 40 percent above last year's total.

Although car sales usually drop off during the Christmas season, George Hornbeck of Hornbeck Chevrolet-Cadillac, Inc., 1 Dundaff Street, said that his company's sales are better this year. "Front-wheel drive cars have done particularly well," Hornbeck said.

Ralph Hoyle of Roemmelmeyers, North Main Street, said that his business of men's and women's clothing was a little ahead of last year. Ellen Kane, owner of The Show Case, North Main Street, described her women's wear store business as being "terrific" and "better than last year."

J.J. Newberry manager Paula Katchko felt that the local department store's sales were very good this year.

An owner of Wallis Furniture, North Main Street, said business was about the same as last year, as did John Richards, manager, J.S. Raub store, North Main Street. Richards said that the bad weather two weeks ago hurt sales, but that nevertheless it has turned out to be a good, steady, Christmas season.

Business newcomers Tom Dombroski and Irma Schnessel each enjoyed the increase in business during the holiday rush. Dombroski purchased Kameen Hardware, South Main Street, from Paul Kameen, earlier this year. Irma Schnessel operates Animal Crackers, an infant and small children's apparel and gift store on the corner of Seventh Avenue and South Main Street.

Two downtown apparel shops reported they were not doing as well this year as in past years.

Ames Plaza stores were busy and seemed hard pressed to handle the crowds, especially on Christmas Eve. A new checkout system at Ames Department Store takes longer to add up sales and several customers left shopping carts filled with merchandise rather than wait at the checkout line. That store's Christmas business would have been even better had they been better able to accommodate customers.

This year was the first time since 1977 that Christmas fell on a Sunday. Thousands of shoppers did some last minute gift buying on Saturday, so for most Carbondale area businesses, 1983 will be recorded as one of the best years for Christmas sales ever!

Coloring contest winners selected

Response to the Carbondale NEWS annual Christmas Coloring Contest was great this year, and our judges had a difficult time choosing the winners in each category.

Winning first prize in the 4-6 year age group is **Joey Getzie**, 93 N. Church St., who is six years old; second prize was won by **Michael Motsay**, 69 Fallbrook St., who is also six years old.

Neal Pewowarski, age 7, Delaware St., Mayfield, won first prize in the 7-8 year group and **Tammy Potis**, 7, RD 2, Carbondale, came in second.

Sam Fox Jr., 6½ years old, of RD 2, Waymart, won first prize in the 9-10 year group. **Mary Beth Lesak**, 133 Cameron St., Simpson, won second prize.

The youngsters received Crayola deluxe coloring sets and Crayola Rub N' Play colorubs as prizes.

The NEWS thanks all the children who did such nice jobs coloring. Others who entered the contest this year are listed below.

Honorable mention in the 4-6 age group:

Sherry Allen, 70 R. Belmont St.; Melody Clark, 4-41st St.; Gregory Bolek, 226 Main St., Blakely; David Spetcher, 11 Washington St.; Michael Wagner Jr., Box 726, Newton Lake.

Also, David J. Dottle, 43 Havana St.; Nadine Krise, RD 2, Box 51, Carbondale; Melissa Ann Sweeney, Box 101, Clifford; Brandi Cwikla, RD 1, Carbondale; Michelle Morcom, Box 40, Waymart.

Honorable mention in the 7-8 age group:

Daniel Burke, 108 Farview St.; Leslie Kreblosky, 348 Upper Powderly St.; Shannon Allen, 70 R. Belmont St.; Richie Speicher, 11 Washington St.; Stephanie Mycek, 3 Tuttle St.; Candy Cerra, 12 Barrett Ave.

Also, Donald Sprague, 1237 Bridge St., Seelyville; Tanny Davis, RD 3, Box 6-A, Carbondale; Richard Mrocika, 86 Church St.; Melissa Gillott, 906 Delaware St., Mayfield; Tommy Murphy, 172 Terrace St.; Sean Coleman, 200 Terrace St.

Honorable mention in the 9-10 age group:

Sherry Umholtz, RD 2, Lake Ariel; Chippy Calabro, 307 Dundaff St.; Donna Cerra, RD 1, Box 344, Carbondale; Kelly McLaughlin, 43 Summit Ave.; Billy Zielinski, 94, Church St.

Also, Danielle Wardlow, 213 Washington St.; Susan Sheare, 34 Cemetery St.; Denise Krenock, 29 Froble St.

This week is good time to make resolutions

By MIKE PETROVSKY

Although most people wait until New Year's Eve to make resolutions, the NEWS found some folks who were willing to make their resolutions for 1984 early, and share them with us.

It seemed the most popular of all the resolutions by people from Carbondale and surrounding communities was to quit smoking. **Paul Killeen**, 60 South Main Street, a three pack-a-day smoker, said that he will quit as of January 1, 1984. Killeen has been smoking cigarettes for the past 30 years. **Mark Atkinson** of 46 Brown Street will make his third attempt to quit smoking. "I'm going to do it this time," he said. "I did it for five months the last time I tried."

John "Squeeky" Nielsen, 200 Jefferson Street, Simpson, told the NEWS he'd love to stop smoking in 1984. Nielsen explained that he made his decision to quit because his doctor said that smoking was bad for his blood circulation.

The NEWS found that smoking isn't the only thing that people want to give up for the new year. **George Fashauer**, 768 Main Street, Simpson, said he would like to eliminate spending so much time in bar rooms so he could spend it with his wife and children especially around the holiday season. "And I will make every effort in the next three months to do so," he said. **William Qualiere** of 32 Maple Avenue said he isn't going to drink any more in 1984, that is, he said, any more than he is drinking now. **Sam Cerra**, 3 Short Street, told the NEWS that he is "swearing off" betting on football games after the Super Bowl, at least until the start of the season next year.

Joe Boshman of 67 Archbald Street said he'll be a better person next year when he quits smoking, drinking and gambling. A married man who shall remain anonymous promised himself he'd stop chasing after married women next year. **Jim Brownell Jr.**, 117 Spring Street, told the NEWS, "I enjoy all of my vices so I'm not giving up anything in 1984."

Other resolutions include: **Bob Cino**, 6 Forty-First Street, resolved that he will get closer to God by attending Mass twice a day and by receiving communion and by saying the rosary once a day. **Michelle Baigis** of Jermyn said she plans to do all she can next year to help the Sacred Heart scholastic team win their meets. **Maureen Mackrell**, 2 Rock Street, said she would try to be a better person in 1984. **Charlie Barber** of 219 Rushbrook Street, Jermyn, resolved that he would try to be much more patient with people. And **Yolanda Bonacci**, 111 Fallbrook Street, said that in 1984 she also plans to better herself and try and get along with people.

Dorothy Collins of 93 South Church Street is going to try not to overeat next year. "I'm going to be good to myself and go on a diet," she said. **Doug Gillette**, 120 Westgate Drive, told the NEWS he wants to get to know more women in 1984. And **Bill Wolfe** of RD 2, Waymart, said he would just be satisfied with making it to another year.

Richard Cain, 46 Cemetery Street, said he just want to keep working and paying taxes. "Things have got to get better," he said. City councilman-elect **John Moran** of 156 South Main Street want to help city council and the new mayor work together in 1984. Police Sergeant **John Barbaro**, 145 Eighth Avenue, told the NEWS he'll take one day at a time and not look back. **Tony Carlo** of 5 Short Street said he wants to make more money next year and he plans to do that by not spending as much as he did this year. Then there were people like **Dan Lee** of Clifford who said he doesn't believe in New Year's resolutions because "they never work."

LAST MINUTE SHOPPERS -- On December 24 the fire lane at Ames Plaza had even more cars than usual. Shoppers wanted to get as close to their destination as possible due to the near-zero temperature. (NEWS Photo)

A person's nickname often told a story about him

Editor's note: This is the second part of an article written by Cy Grossvenor of Elmira, New York. Mr. Grossvenor grew up on Dickson Avenue and remembers his early years in Carbondale vividly. The first section of this article on local nicknames appeared in last week's issue.

Many will remember A.J. "Andy" Bell's dairy store on Spring St., facing Darte Ave. Every time Rexford Penwarden came into possession of a penny he'd head for Andy's. He'd drape himself over the candy case and study the tempting offerings below the glass. But, no matter how long he spent in deciding which of the many sweets he'd squander his copper upon, his final choice was always the same. He was "Licorice" Penwarden.

Then there was "Peanuts" Ruane.

Christening boys with certain names made nicknames almost a "sure thing." Clarence and known as Russell were among those names. Among those who bore these names and seldom heard them, except when formalities were observed, were: Russell "Boss" Roberts, Russell "Duck" Henry, Russell "Speed" Spencer, Clarence "Classy" Buck, Clarence "Ducky" Drake, and Clarence "Sleepy" Obmacht.

In the town in which I live a Jewish lad often roamed the streets of his neighborhood. On moon-lit summer nights he'd greet people sitting on their front porches with: "Beautiful moon, isn't it?" He was known as "Mooney" Lovitch. In much the same manner did the late Frank and Campbell acquired one of his nicknames. Frank was the undisputed nickname champion of Carbondale. At various periods during his lifetime he was known by three different nicknames: First, "Soup", then "Hector", then "Lovely Day."

A slip-up of some sort very often resulted in the acquisition of a nickname.

Students in a Carbondale High School class were given an assignment by their teacher. They were to write to the college of their choice and ask that the college catalog be mailed to them; then use the catalog in writing a paper about the college. A date was set for the completion of the assignment and for the reading of the papers in class.

One of the boys in the class selected a college he knew little or nothing about and sent for its catalog. He prepared a paper about the school, as was required, and read it in class. His name was Roland; but from the moment it became known that he had requested a catalog from a prestigious girls' school and had used it in preparation of his paper, he was branded with a nickname. No more was he "Rollie." He was forevermore "Vassar" Markey.

A rich, varied, and unmatched assortment of nicknames borne by Carbondalians and residents of the vicinity. Consider these: "Dub," "Lubs," "Purp," "Hogg," "Shek," "Chief," "Chin," "Eagle Beak," "Wesel," "Wind Belly," "Crow," "Smokey," "Shirts," "Blubber," "Shon," "Hunky," "Whistler," "Soldier," "Tub," "Turk," "Boob," "Dago," "Black Joe," "Mooch," "Flip," "Snookey," "Duke," "Nellie," "Porky," "Chesty," "Yanie," "Beanie," "Jigger," "Shud," "Buff," "Hard Coal," "Tod," "Toots," "Busher," "Harp," "Jada," "Devil," "Diddy," "Bo," "Squid," "Frisco," "Tippy," "Rip," "Sis," "Canuck," "Singer," "Snap," "Sparrow," "Shine," "Countess," "Shiver," "Nutsey," "Chip," and "Dummy."

The most unflattering nickname worn by any Carbondalian was that of a boy who lived on Brook Street.

This is how he got it.

Early one evening I was one of a group of youngsters lounging in the yard beside the boy's home, waiting for him to finish his dinner and join us. Our friend had the gargantuan appetite of a growing boy and had finished a second heaping plateful, and was reaching for "thirds" when we heard, through the open window, his sister exclaim: "Leonard, you're a pig!"

When our friend had finally satisfied his enormous appetite and came out to join us he was greeted with: "Hello, 'Pig'." And 'Pig' he was, as long as he lived in Carbondale. Martin Judge remembers him well. Millard Cliff probably does, too.

Ask "Smack" or "Mutt" about "Pig" when you meet either of them.